

Atty. Dkt. No. 050851-0101

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method which comprises:
investing at least a portion of one or more assets of a pension plan so as to acquire an ownership interest in a selected plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts sold by owners of the current, in-force life settlement contracts, wherein each of the plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts is characterized in that it either (a) provides a plurality of periodic payments during a life of an insured or (b) provides a single death benefit on the life of the insured, and is selected so that the insured is not a beneficiary of the pension plan, and is selected so that a respective remaining life expectancy of each of the respective insureds is within a predetermined limit;

calculating, by a computing apparatus, periodically for each of a plurality of the respective life settlement contracts, an actuarial present value for every out year through a final year of an actuarial table appropriate to a respective insured of the respective life settlement contract, with parameters for the calculating comprising: a probability that the respective insured will die during such year, an interest rate, and a death benefit for the respective life settlement contract;

summing, by the computing apparatus, the actuarial present value for every out year through the final year of the actuarial table appropriate to the respective insured, to obtain an actuarial present value for the respective life settlement contract;

determining, by the computing apparatus, a total value of pension plan assets, including the actuarial present value of the plurality of life settlement contracts, with the total value of the pension plan assets inclusive of the ownership interest in the selected plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts so acquired converting a value of the assets of the pension plan used to acquire the ownership interest in the selected plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts into an actuarial present value of the ownership interest in the selected plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts;

calculating, by the computing apparatus, a difference between the total value of the pension plan assets and liabilities of the pension plan to obtain an unfunded actuarial accrued liability; and

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~~maintaining by the pension plan or having maintained enforceability of the selected~~
plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts and ~~processing or having processed~~
death benefits arising from the life settlement contracts.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 27, wherein each of the one or more life settlement contracts is characterized in that it provides a single death benefit on the life of an insured.

3. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein the remaining life expectancy of the insureds under the life settlement contracts is no more than 20 years.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein the remaining life expectancy of the insureds under the life settlement contracts is no more than 15 years.

Claims 5 – 22 are cancelled.

23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the investing step comprises investing in an ownership interest in a pool of current, in-force life settlement contracts.

24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 23, wherein the pool of current, in-force life settlement contracts are life settlement contracts obtained and made available for acquisition by a third party and wherein the third party maintains or has maintained the enforceability of the selected plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts and processes or has processed death benefits arising from the life settlement contracts.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
setting a selection criterion for the selected plurality of current, in-force life settlement contracts that there will be no relative concentration of dollar value amount attributable to a single insurer or carrier.

26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

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administering the pension plan on an approximately regular basis to perform the investing and calculating steps to thereby reduce an unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAL) and/or reduce any corresponding UAL amortization.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein a first party ~~performing the method performs the method by performing one or more of the steps of claim 1 and/or contracting~~ contracts with or directs directing one or more third parties to perform by a computing apparatus one or more of the steps of claim 1.